



RUSSIA'S LANDSCAPE AND HISTORY

Reteaching Activity

The Russian people have experienced a troubled history. In the country's early years, Mongol invaders disturbed the peace enjoyed by the Slavic settlers. The royal czars who followed increased the size of the territory but controlled

the lives of citizens. The Communists brought in a new era of tight control. Even now, after the fall of communism, the Russian people struggle to learn the ways of democracy and a free market economy.

DIRECTIONS: Creating a Time Line Read each description of a significant period in Russia's tumultuous history. Then write the appropriate letter of each statement beside the matching date on the historical time line. Refer to your textbook if necessary.

A.D.	
800s	_____
1000s	_____
1200s	_____
1480	_____
1500s	_____
1700s	_____
1812	_____
1861	_____
1914	_____
1917	_____
1922	_____
1941	_____
1985	_____
1991	_____

- A. Czar Alexander II, the Czar-Liberator, freed the serfs. Russia entered a period of industrialization.
- B. Nazi Germany invaded the Soviet Union, bringing it into World War II.
- C. Slavs built Kievan Rus, a civilization based around Kiev.
- D. The period of the czars ended when Nicholas II was dethroned. Vladimir Lenin then established a communist state. The Russian capital returned to Moscow from St. Petersburg.
- E. Eastern Orthodox Christianity became the accepted religion. Kievan Rus enjoyed prosperous trade with the Mediterranean world and western European countries.
- F. Napoleon Bonaparte led the French army in an invasion. Determined Russians and brutal winter weather forced him to retreat.
- G. Mikhail Gorbachev became the leader of the Soviet Union and allowed glasnost, a policy of openness. Russians were finally free to challenge the government.
- H. Mongols invaded and gained control of the territory. Kiev's power and wealth declined.
- I. World War I broke out. The food shortages of the war caused much starvation. This increased the people's discontent with the czarist government. The stage was set for the Russian Revolution.
- J. Fifteen republics declared their independence. The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics dissolved.
- K. A prince of Muscovy named Ivan III freed the territory from the Mongols. This introduced the era of the czars.
- L. Czar Peter I, Peter the Great, built the new capital in St. Petersburg. It was modeled after the European cities and culture he admired.
- M. Communist leaders formed the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). Soon afterward, Joseph Stalin gained control.
- N. Czar Ivan IV, known as "the Terrible," ruled with the help of his secret police.